NEWS RELEASE

Judd Gregg



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GREGG ANNOUNCES \$550,000 IN FEDERAL FUNDING FOR PORTSMOUTH RIVERWALK WORKING ITS WAY THROUGH CONGRESS

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) today announced that he has included \$550,000 for the Piscataqua Riverwalk project in a Fiscal Year 2004 funding measure approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee yesterday. As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Senator Gregg was able to include the funding in the FY04 appropriations bill that funds the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Riverwalk project seeks to construct a pedestrian walkway to provide increased movement along the river and give residents and visitors improved access to the variety of businesses in the downtown area and numerous scenic and historic tourist destinations. The project is an effort to reconstruct Bow Street's historic wharf system. Senator Gregg was able to secure \$450,000 in federal funding in Fiscal Year 2003 for the project.

Senator Gregg stated, "Few cities are able to balance the importance of economic growth while preserving and promoting its historical significance like the City of Portsmouth. The creation of this Riverwalk along the Piscataqua will showcase the rich maritime history of one of the most important ports in the history of our nation, while at the same time, providing improved access to the variety of businesses along the river. I am pleased to be once again be able to support this worthwhile initiative and congratulate the City and all who continue to work on the project."

Portsmouth Mayor Evelyn Sirrell stated, "Yesterday I learned the wonderful news that Senator Gregg has secured an additional \$550,000 in federal funding for our Riverwalk project and I am just thrilled for the City and overwhelmed with gratitude to the Senator. With these funds Portsmouth will be able to beautify and renew the City's Bow Street waterfront and create a place where all our residents and visitors can get right down to see the beautiful views, and visit our cherished Bow Street businesses. Senator Gregg has been out front on the Riverwalk project from the very beginning and I'd like to thank him from the bottom of my heart."

Peter Hamelin, President of the Greater Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce, stated, "The Riverwalk is another project that is sure to have a positive and lasting impact on quality of life for residents and increase business for downtown merchants. Opening up the waterfront as an access point to the city is a perfect way to introduce a whole new audience to our history and culture. We thank Senator Gregg for his leadership and help in funding the project, and his willingness to roll up his sleeves for the Seacoast community. Thanks to his vision and support, we will see the project become a reality sooner rather than later."

For more information, contact Mayor Sirrell at (603) 431-2000.